

ABSTRACT

A system and method for protecting a connection-oriented network by maintaining guaranteed bandwidth and quality of service for each connection of the network. The system comprises two or more communication links
5 located within the network, a transmitter switch coupled to one end of each link for transmitting distinct data along each link, and a receiver switch coupled to the other end of each link for receiving the distinct data. The system further provides that the distinct data transmitted along any one link may be switched and transmitted along the other links when a failure is detected on that one
10 link.

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